

## **Miracles V.the Right to Hold They Don't Happen**

A miracle is an event that is not naturally possible. That does not mean it is necessarily impossible. There could be a power greater than nature such as a god that can do it.

Rights are based not on wants but on needs. A right is not the same thing as a privilege. You have a right to food but you do not have a right to sex. Sex is a privilege not a right. We can get by without believing in miracles and most of us don't think much about them.

Many of us have a desire to believe in miracles. Nobody has a need to. We will not die if miracles are fiction.

We have a need to assume that nature will not change.

In the light of that should we bother investigating miracles at all? Usually the reason they need investigation is because people may be misled by false claims.

We have a need to hold that the universe will behave a certain way. For example, that dead people don't come back. That cutting somebody's head off will kill them. We have a need and therefore right to believe this. Miracle believers are trying to influence us against seeing that.

We have to say we know what is likely. We have to say that whatever happens will be natural not supernatural. For example, if you jump off a skyscraper it is very likely that you will die. To say that an angel may save the person is dangerous. It undermines that. It makes us less confident that nature works in a predictable way. We need that predictability to be sane and to function in life and to learn. The more we believe and feel that we will die if we jump off a skyscraper the better for knowledge is power and it makes us feel less helpless. Anything that diminishes that is harmful.

Religion says it bans gullibility in relation to miracles for if people are uncritical they will be led astray by fake wonderworkers. It says miracles may only be believed if the evidence and the testimony in their favour is good enough.

The vast majority of miracle believers believe without much evidence. They just take the word of their leaders for it that miracles happened. They ignore the authorities that challenge the authenticity of those miracles. So miracle claims lead to credulity.

There are claims in relation to which evidence and testimony are no good. Sometimes to state a claim is to refute it. Sometimes to describe a doctrine is to refute it. Miracles must be counted among these things.

The believers do not believe in miracles because of the testimony and evidence at all. The testimony and evidence is just window dressing and they are manipulators.

Religion and miracles are dangerous because religion can lie and cheat with impunity. No court wants to get involved in the matter of if a miracle happened or not or if religion is true or not.

Rights are based on needs. To believe in miracles is not a right. Many religions claim that it is seriously harmful and evil not to believe in their miracles. They try to make out that belief in miracles is a human right. Catholics say for example that we need miracles to believe in Jesus and the Church for if we don't we will go to suffer forever in Hell. The critic of miracles then is an abomination. If a miracle really happens, it follows that it happens for an extremely serious reason. This implies we have a duty and therefore a need to believe.

Miracles undermine the fact that we do not have a need to believe. We should find miracle claims offensive. We should worry.